WHEN MOTHER

LETS US CUT PICTURE

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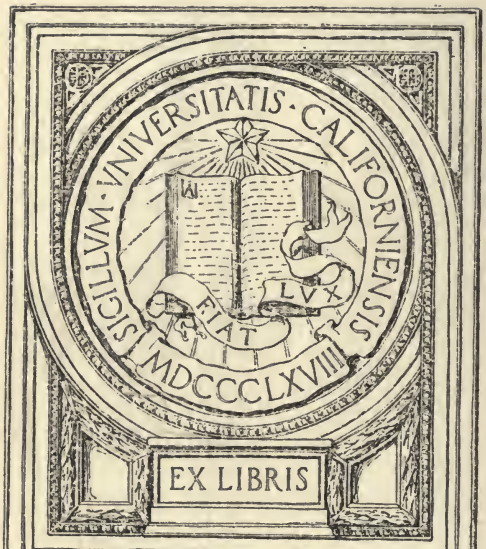
IDA E. BOYD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WHEN MOTHER LETS US CUT OUT PICTURES

See-Saw.

WHEN MOTHER LETS US CUT OUT PICTURES

By IDA E. BOYD

Teacher of Art, Brooklyn Training School for Teachers

ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

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Dishes.

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INTRODUCTION

Do my little friends like to cut out paper dolls, soldiers, tents and such things? If they do, I am sure we shall have a happy time cutting many kinds of things out of paper.

First of all, in the right hand take a pair of scissors, pointed scissors will be best. We must slip our thumb and second finger into the holes in the handle. The first finger helps to steady the scissors and will take care of itself. Open the scissors wide, then close them to the point. Try this several times, listening for the sound of the points as they come together. We shall never be able to do well unless our cuts are long and clean.

We can use any kind of paper that we choose. I am sure mother will let us have the clean wrapping paper that comes around our bundles. Take the part of the paper that is not wrinkled much. By and by when we have learned to cut well we shall choose fresh paper that has never been used. While we are learning, wrapping paper and, perhaps, newspaper will do very well.

Let me whisper something to you. When we are having a happy time ourselves, let us remember not to make any work for any one else. Let us make mother glad because we never leave a scrap of paper on the floor. Little fingers, bright eyes and loving children will be quick to help everybody, every time and everywhere.

Shall we have that for our secret?

Snip, snip, snip!
How my nice sharp scissors do fly!
Work, work, work!
An artist I'll be by and by.

Here's a little sash—
Only a little sash.
Yes, it is white
But it's cut quite right,
Quite right!

HOW TO CUT OUT PICTURES.

Take a piece of paper (not too large a piece) and hold it in your left hand with the scissors in the right. With long clean cuts make a dolly's sash. Be careful to cut it straight.

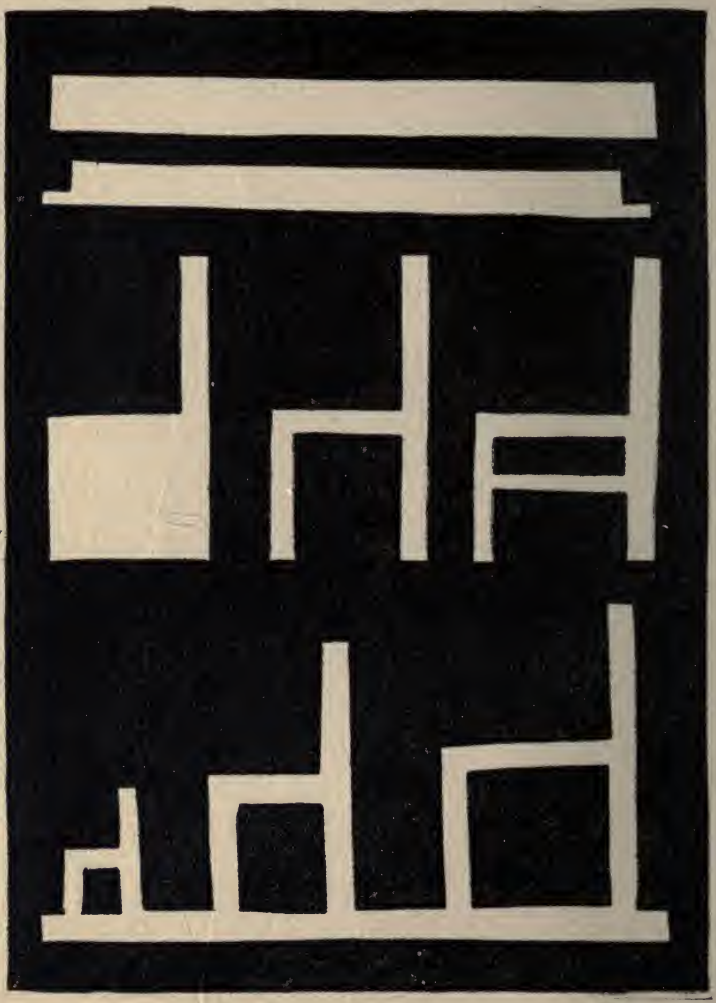
Cut another strip of paper like the sash. Do you know how some of father's stand-up collars look? Sometimes they look as if they were cut out of a straight piece of cloth, then sewed to a little band which is longer than the collar. Cut one where the band and collar are in one piece. To do this we must cut out little bits at the ends, thus making the band longer than the collar. The corners may be bent back or we may round them off with the scissors. With a wider piece of paper try some cuffs in the same way.

Father often wears other kinds of collars. Do you think that you can cut out another kind? Choose white paper if you have some and try it. Make it large enough to be a real collar and cut a little hole at each end of the band for the collar button. When you do this, be careful to hold a finger under the paper on the other side as you press the scissors through. As soon as you feel a little prick from the scissors, take your finger away and gently press the scissors more until the buttonhole is large enough. Cut a button

hole in the middle of the collar, too. Put a collar button in it, leave it on father's dresser and see what he will say.

Cut out an oblong piece of paper. Cut a flag with a nice long stick. Begin at the bottom of the flag stick and cut up the paper until the stick is as long as you wish it to be. Now, turn the paper around with the flag stick toward you and with a straight cut, cut to the end of the paper. If you have some colored crayons, you will have a happy time putting in our stripes and making a blue garden for our stars.

Cut another flag. Turn it upside down, with the stick going up. What have you? A chair with a very tall back. Do you wish to cut off a piece of the back? A chair with a back as tall as this wouldn't look well, would it?



A Collar and Some Chairs.

CHAIRS.

We have some chairs that look as solid as this. If you do not wish all the chairs to be like parlor chairs you can cut out the underneath part to let the legs show. If you wish to have a little rod join the legs, cut a piece out under where the rod will be. Then cut through one end of the rod up to the seat, across under the seat, down to the top of the part for the rod (be careful not to go through it), across the top of it and a piece of paper will fall out but the rod will stay.

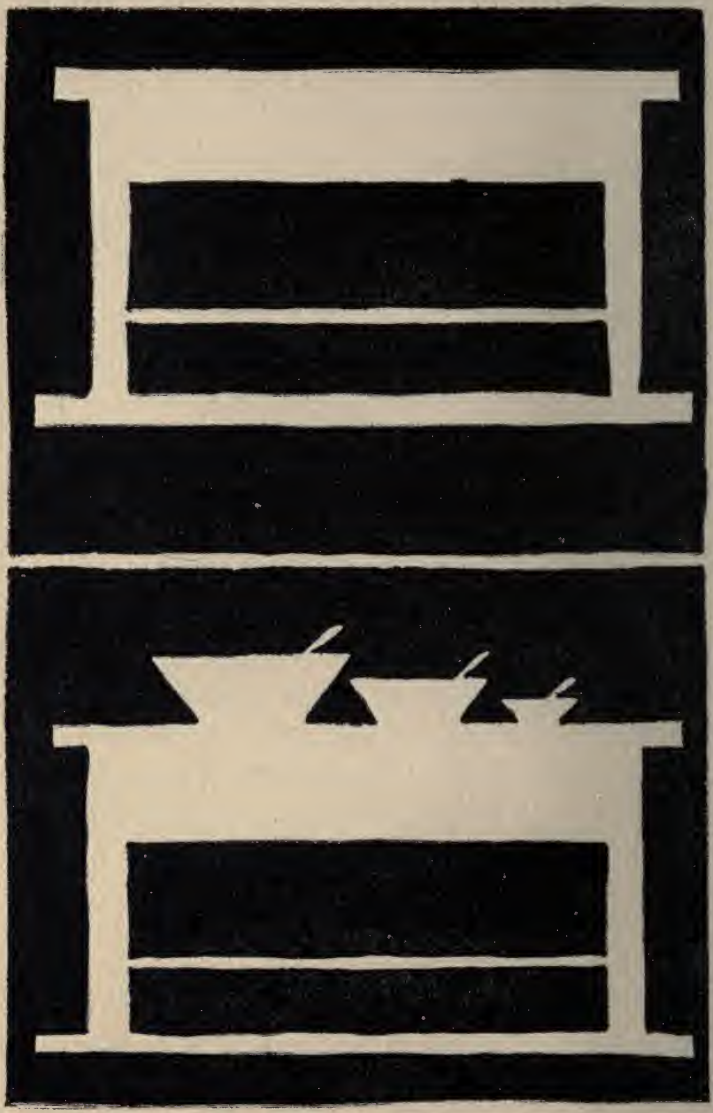
I am sure that now you will be able to cut the three chairs for the Three Bears. Try them and be careful to cut them so that each bear will know his own chair. Chairs stand on the floor and I believe that you will enjoy doing this although it is harder. Think;—a little strip of paper, then the baby's chair; more strip of paper, then the mother's chair; more strip of paper, then the father's chair. We shall always play that the strip of paper that holds all together at the bottom is either the floor or the ground. If you wish to show the legs and rounds of the chairs, cut as you did before but be careful to plan so that one leg of each chair is not cut away from the floor.

Find the little chair that you like the very best. See if you can cut one that will look like it.

Mother rocks the baby
And sometimes she rocks me!
Now she's tired, maybe—
So here's a chair she'll see.

The first time you try it, do not cut it on the floor, do that the second time. If you cut the floor strip quite wide, you will be able to double that. The part that is turned under can be flat and your chair will truly stand. In this way you will be able to cut out all the chairs you want for your playhouse.

Which is mother's favorite chair? Cut it out just as carefully as you can. Put the cutting beside her plate on the table to see how surprised she'll be.



The Table of the Three Bears.

THE TABLE OF THE THREE BEARS.

Shall we cut out the table that Goldilocks found in the house of the Three Bears? I am sure you have found by this time that it is easier to cut away from you and that you must turn your paper every time you cut. Show the table on a floor line, cut up the leg until you get to the top which you will notice goes out a little more than the table legs do. Be careful about this, because without it your cutting will not look like a table. Cut across the top and down the other side. Be careful to make the second side just like the first. What a strange table it would be if all the legs were not of the same length!

The table must stand well and be strong. For that reason it will be better not to cut under the bottom of the table legs. Decide how wide you want the leg to be and at the bottom very gently press the point of the scissors through the paper as you did for your buttonhole. Carefully cut up the table leg to the thickness at the top, under the top, down to the bottom of the other leg and across the floor strip to the place where you started. A piece of paper will fall out. If you wish a shelf to go across between the legs, as I have done, you will have to cut out two pieces instead of one.

I have cut the table of the Three Bears show-

ing the three bowls. I am sure that you will enjoy doing the same thing.

Won't it be fun to make another cutting of this kind with a chair at each end of the table! I believe you can do that by yourselves. Before you begin, think how high the seat of your chair will be and also how tall you will want its back. Your little bear won't be happy unless the chair is just right so he can sit at the table where he can easily reach his bowl and spoon.

The table will often need other dishes besides bowls and spoons. Try to cut out all kinds of dishes. Platters and saucers must not be high, but very low. Although cups have different shapes, they almost always have a handle. Look at the pitcher. See the difference in the spout on the pitcher and that on the teapot. Have you some dolls' dishes? Try to cut their pictures. Be careful to cut so that the opposite sides will be alike.

Will you come to my party
To drink some real tea with me?
We'll use my cut out china
And very polite we'll be.

THE HOUSE OF THE THREE BEARS.

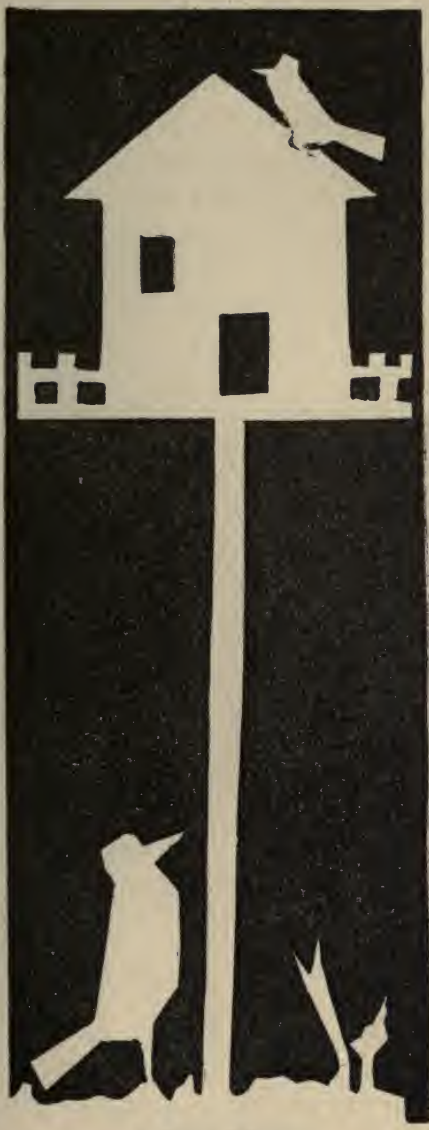
We can now cut tables, chairs and dishes for the Three Bears. So far we have tried no house for them. Let us cut a simple one first,

one that is not fastened to the ground. Let the bottom of the house be square, the roof pointed, and the eaves wide to let the rain run down to the ground. Cut a door and a window in the house and have a chimney at one side. In cutting the door, cut across one short side and one long side, the other side being folded so that it will act like a hinge and will open and shut. When your door is open, put your house on a table or a window seat, and it will stand.

I have cut the house of the Three Bears. Goldilocks was here in the Little Bear's bed when the Big Bear's growl wakened her and she ran home dreadfully frightened. This kind of cutting may be too hard for you to do yet, but some of you may enjoy trying to do it.

Suppose you try to cut the house that you would like to have the Three Bears live in. Cut it on a ground piece. If you make this piece wide enough to bend forward, the house will stand and will have a real sidewalk in front of it.

A Walk in the Woods.



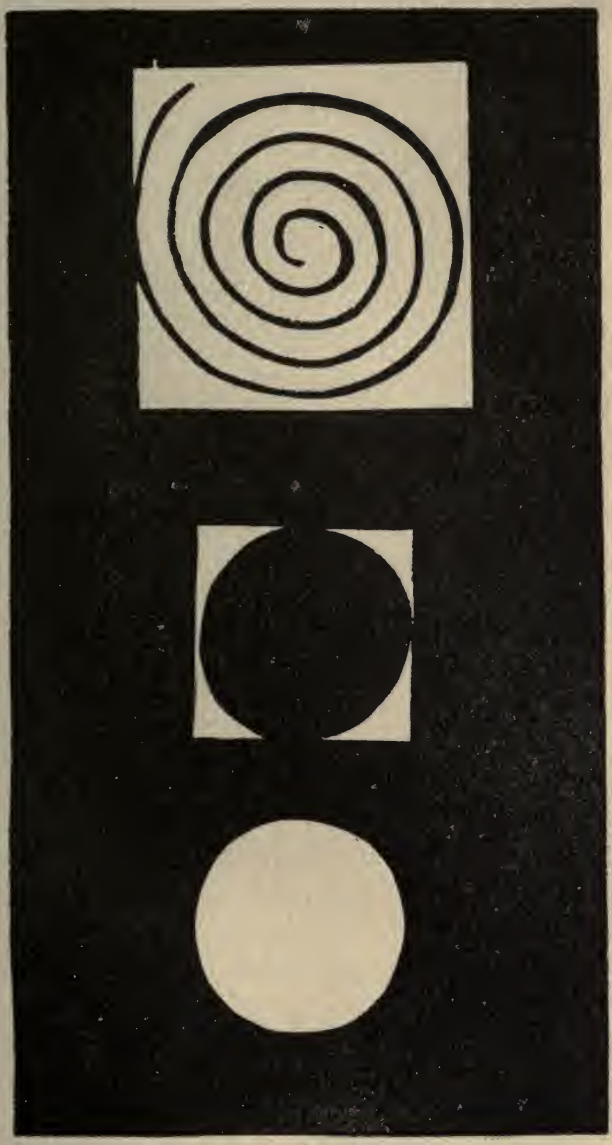
A Bird House.

STREETS.

What kind of house do you live in? Can you cut a picture of it? If you didn't live where you do now, what kind of house would you like to live in? Look through your picture books and through mother's magazines to find a picture of the house you like best. Make a cutting of it. It will be fun to cut many houses of many kinds. Plan for a sidewalk in front of each house, and have a little village. Arrange your houses in order so you will have a street. Will you build the houses close together or will you plan to have a yard for each one? Of course you will want a schoolhouse, some churches, some stores, and bird houses, too.

When you make the streets, will they be nice and straight so that the people who walk through them will be able to find their way easily? Will you have cross-walks connecting the streets? One day I heard a little boy whisper "May we cut a street car for this little town?" That was such a nice idea. Shall we cut an automobile, too? But wheels to such things are round and before we can do this we must learn to cut round things.

One day when I was walking in the woods, I saw a tall stem that had wound itself up into a little ball at the end. As the sun and the air



Whirls.

and the water played with it, it gradually spread out and became a beautiful fern leaf. Another day I saw the house of the snail. Suppose we think of this kind of curve as we use our scissors to-day.

Cut a square, size about three inches. Take the square firmly in your left hand. In your cutting begin near the top and as you cut around the corner, firmly but gently turn your paper. Turn it all the time you are cutting. Keep on turning and cutting until you get to the middle of your square.

Find the picture of this on the opposite page. Try this several times until your cuts are round and even.

Take a large piece of paper. Have it square in shape. Try cutting a large, round mat by cutting the corners off as you come to them. The only way that you can do this *well,* is by remembering to turn the paper all the time. When you succeed in cutting this nice round mat, think of a way of cutting some fringe on it. You may like to color it with your crayons and use it in your playhouse.

Suppose we play that we are going to the store. We have a nice round penny in our hands. Let us see if we can cut a play penny that is as round as our real penny. In the store we shall see some round pink candies that we are going

to buy. Can you cut some of these, too? Perhaps you will like to color them. Sometimes they are brown, sometimes pink, sometimes green, and sometimes white.

These candies are on a pretty plate. It has two little green bands on it with a row of children between the bands. The candies on this plate are green, too. Let us cut a picture of the plate and be careful to have it nice and round and even. If we remember to turn our paper when we are cutting, I think it will have no nicks and no bumps, but will be round and smooth. Won't it be fun to make a lot of plates? Perhaps mother will give you a round cookie to put on your plate, and you will have a real party.

Trees.

Trees.

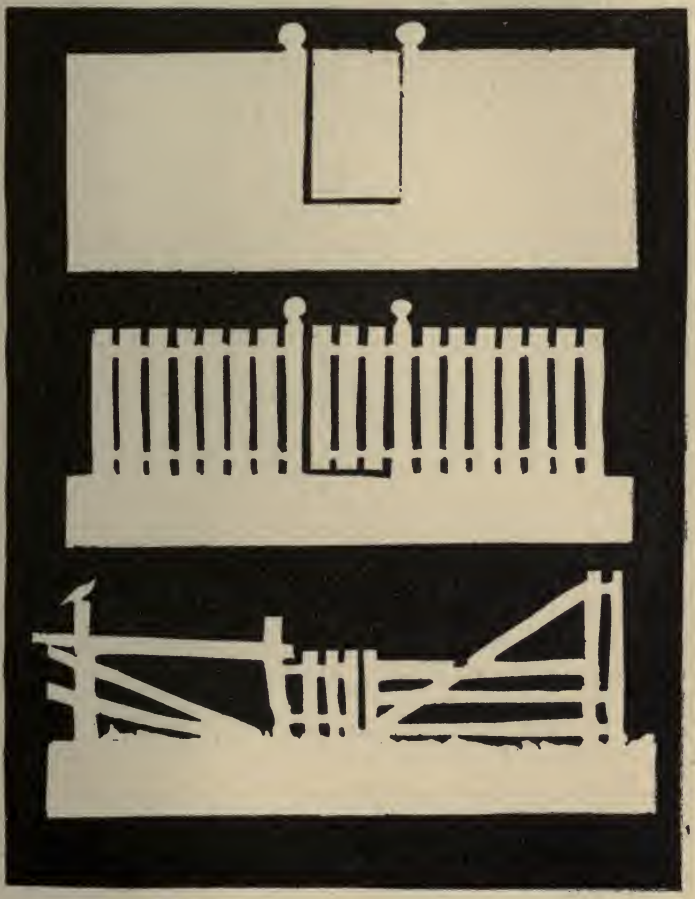
OUR VILLAGE.

What has become of our village? We must surely plant trees there and now that we have learned to turn our paper, I think we shall be able to cut trees. What kinds of trees do you like best? Think how some trees look. Do you know what an apple tree looks like? I am sure you do if you have ever been in the country. The trunk is strong and sturdy and the branches grow low. An elm tree is tall and slender and spreads out its branches like an umbrella. Like all other trees, it does catch the rain and keeps some of it from soaking the little birdies who are patiently waiting for mother bird and father bird to bring them a worm.

The poplar tree goes straight up like a soldier pointing his gun upward. The great strong oak tree and the maple grow to be very large and are often rather round. But the tree that the children love best of all is the Christmas tree with its branches growing out straight. It almost seems that it is holding out its arms to take the precious things that it so carefully guards.

Each tree that is cut must have its own shape thought out. See if you can tell which trees I have cut for you. Try cutting them. Hunt up pictures that you think are well drawn and cut their pictures. Go out of doors, find the tree

that you like best, and cut a picture of that, too. Cut your trees with ground to grow from, and plant them near the house where you wish them to be.



Fences.

Houses that have yards around them have fences, too, sometimes. There are many kinds of fences. I think I shall try to cut a picket fence. The easiest way to cut this seems to be, first, to cut an oblong as high and as long as the fence is to be on one side of the gate; second, to plan and to cut for the height of the gatepost and the width of the gate; third, to cut a strip for the fence on the other side of the gate.

If you cut this fence, take a large piece of paper and let the first cutting be a big one. I must make small cuttings to go in a small book, but your cuttings should all be large if you wish to get all the fun that you can out of doing it.

If you make a picket fence, remember that gateposts are usually a little taller than the rest of the fence. In cutting the pickets the top may be flat, pointed, or rounding. Be careful when you cut out the spaces between the pickets that you press the point of your scissors through carefully. If you are not careful to do this, your paper may tear. Be careful also to make the pickets of the same size and to see that the strip that joins them has the same width from beginning to end.

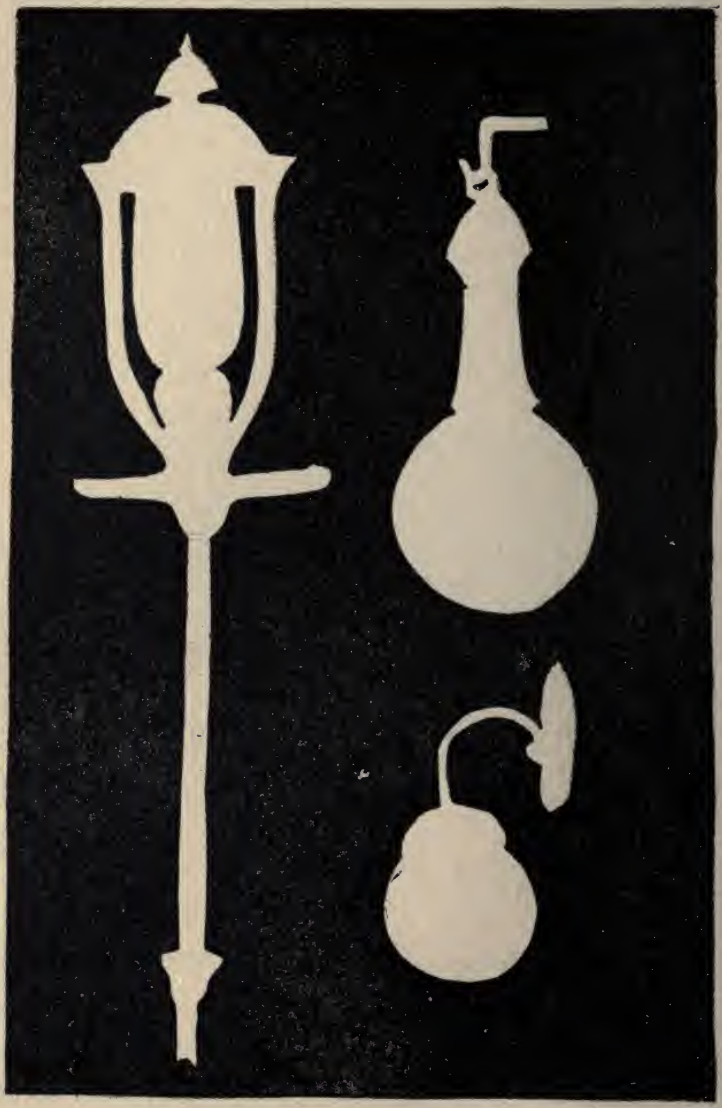
If you wish the gate to open and shut, you must cut down the length of it at one side and across the bottom to the other gatepost. What other kinds of fences have you seen? Do you

remember how they look? Can you make a cutting of one of them? If you cannot remember how they look, perhaps you will be able to find a picture of one that you will enjoy cutting. Be careful to have it strong and well built.

When you cut out the fences to put around your yards, you must think how high you wish them to be. They must be high to keep the baby in the yard, and they must not be too high, because that will spoil the looks of the place.

Swing on your gate and wave your wee flower!
Wave it on high, above your bright eyes!
Call to the birdies on branches swinging
Near to the nest where mother-bird flies.

Swing, little girl! Hold your wee flower!
Dear little girl whose two dancing eyes
Will sparkle and flash and each time she swings
She'll hold for us sunbeams as sure's they rise.



Lamps.

Think about this, for everything that we put in our little town must help to make it beautiful. Perhaps you may choose to have no fence at all.

Now we are ready to call in the man who helps us light our streets. Before we do this we must have some street lamps. Look at the lamps in your neighborhood, choose the ones that you like best, cut them and plan for their placing.

You are now ready for street cars and automobiles. Look for pictures of them, watch them as they stand on the street. Look to see how they are made if you want to put them in your village. Look to see how the wheels are fastened to a street car and to an automobile. Are they put on in the same way?

A Cozy Spot.

I believe you can really cut a picture of out-of-doors now. Some people take pictures, some draw them, some paint them and I believe that you can cut them. Let your first one be very simple. Have only a house and a tree in it. Think how near to your house you wish to plant your tree. What kind of a tree is it to be, and how tall do you want it?

I have tried to cut an out-of-doors picture and to have it in a frame. This is harder to do because one is apt to cut into the frame. I do not wish to have my trees all alike nor to have them all the same distance apart. If you do try to cut a picture in a frame, show it to father and perhaps he will help you to surprise mother by having a white passepartout frame put on it. It will be nice to give to her at some particular time when you wish to make her very happy. It is such fun to surprise both mother and father.

Watching for Mother.

There was a little girl;
She made her scissors whirl
Right in the middle of the morning.
She cut the dishes out;
They're good without a doubt,
So she really didn't need a warning.

A PAPER BABY.

Who ever heard of a village without any people in it? Of course we must have people there. Let us begin by cutting out some babies. Our first one will be very easy. Take an oblong piece of paper about three times as long as it is wide. Cut the head and the outstretched arms from the top of it. Under the arms of the nice long baby dress, begin with a slanting cut that will end at the two bottom corners of the oblong. When you try this again, make the baby's head a little longer, let the sleeves have some wrinkles and round the skirt off at the bottom.

Perhaps you can draw a face on this baby. Look at the babies that you see. I think you will find that their eyes are halfway down from the top of the head. Dots will do for eyes at first if you make them large enough. A baby's nose comes halfway down below the eyes and two little dots for the holes will show that little nose. One larger dot quite near to the nose will be a little mouth. Sometimes we make this a little longer than a dot. Be careful not to make it too long because we wish our baby to have a sweet mouth. Babies are cross sometimes, but we love to remember them best when they are happy.

Bend this paper baby so he will sit down on the edge of a chair. I think you will have to

bend him twice. Perhaps you will like to have him stretch out his arms so his little mother will take him. All babies love to hold out their arms to those they love. If you have a happy time cutting this baby's picture out, perhaps you will want to cut a good many and play you are having a baby party.

At first our baby wears long dresses. As he grows we shall put him in short clothes. Can you cut the baby out when he is wearing short dresses? Perhaps the toes of his little shoes will just peep out below his dress. As he grows a little older we shall shorten his dresses still more. How grown up he will feel!

Can you think of some things that a baby does sometimes? I have cut out some babies doing different kinds of things. They are on the opposite page. Can you guess what they are doing? By using your scissors see if you, too, can show something that a baby does. Cut out a dear little baby (use white paper for this), paste it on a piece of colored paper if you can find some, write under it "Baby loves you," and send it to someone you love who may be lonesome, tired or sick.

Baby Plays.

There once lived a great artist, named Millet. He loved children very much and drew many pictures of them. One of his pictures was called "The First Step." I have tried to cut it out for you.

The mother with arms so strong and tender,
Holds the small baby whose two dancing feet
Would gladly go to her father's big arms,
Stretched out so straight his own darling to greet.

I've adopted little Teddy,
But baby is my own;
I love them both already,
So neither feels alone!

Shoes.

A DEPARTMENT STORE.

Now for your shoes! Do you know how they look? Try to make a cutting of one of them. After you have done this, place your shoe in front of you and look at it. Look at the straight heel, how it curves in at the ankle and curves out on the higher part of the shoe. Look at the slant on the top part of the foot. See what a long toe there is on every shoe. If you wish to make a very nice looking shoe, you will be careful to cut the toe long. Look at the cutting you have made to see if you have made it long enough.

"There was an old woman who lived in a shoe;
She had so many children she didn't know what to do.
To some she gave broth, to some she gave bread;
She kissed them all round and sent them to bed."

Ready to Wear.

Try to cut different kinds of shoes, low shoes, high shoes, and slippers. It will be fun to have a shoe store. If you wish to play store, take colored crayons and color some of the shoes that you have cut out. You may have every-day shoes, Sunday shoes, and party slippers to sell. One little child who cut some shoes out sold each pair for a pin.

I think you are able to cut a story now. In mine, I am cutting, I am playing that the old woman has gone to market. How glad the children will be when she comes back.

Let us be dressmakers and tailors to-day. First, try to cut out a little girl's petticoat and some boy's trousers. The little girl's skirt is not straight across the bottom. The fullness of the skirt makes it seem a little longer in some places than in others. In cutting a little boy's trousers, you will notice that if he has worn them, there will be wrinkles around the knees and that the pockets will bulge.

When you try to cut a little girl's dress or a boy's suit, put one on the bed or let it hang from a hanger. Are skirts and waists of the same length? Sometimes they are, but often the waist is shorter. This is true of these cunning short-waisted dresses that little girls often wear.

Notice how far up on the waist line it will be necessary to cut before you will begin to show

where the sleeve joins the waist. Watch the shoulder line when you cut across the top of the neck and be careful not to make it too wide. If it is wide it will do for a little fat girl. Be careful to have the opposite sleeves and the opposite sides of the waist of the same length. If you are not careful to do this, the dress will not fit a nice straight child. Try several little dresses, jackets, long coats, trousers, Russian blouse suits, and hats. If your shop is a real dressmaker's shop why not print a sign? "Very little children's ready-made paper suits a specialty."

A Little Tennis Player.

BOYS AND GIRLS.

Before we begin to do much story telling with our scissors, let us look carefully at boys and girls to see how they are made. First of all, a head, round at the top and pointed at the chin. Next comes a little short neck that joins the head to the body. It is that little neck at the back of a baby's head that mother loves to kiss. The slanting shoulders, the arms and the trunk of our body are the things we must next look at.

It does seem strange to hear any part of our body called the trunk. Perhaps it is because so many of the precious things that help to keep us alive are inside of this part of our body, that we have such a fine, strong name for it. This trunk curves in at the waist line a little and if we press our elbows in here, we shall find that the upper part of our arm ends at about this waist line, while the fingers come about halfway down to the knee.

Now you will be surprised. Look at a rolly-poly baby and you will find that his head is so big, and long, and round that often it is almost as long as his trunk. As he grows, his trunk grows longer and still a little longer, until, when he is seven or eight years old, it is often twice as long as his head.

If you will look at the length of a little boy's trousers or a little girl's skirt, and compare them with the length of the waist, you will find that they are about equal. That part of the leg above the knee, we call the thigh. If you look at the length of the leg below the knee to the floor, and compare it with the thigh, you will find they also are about equal.

The main things to remember in our cutting are, that the trunk, the thigh and the leg are equal in length, and that the head is half as long as any of them. This is the reason why it looks funny if a back is cut very long and a thigh or a leg very short.

My Friend.

Another surprise that we have is that the foot is about half as long as the leg. Do you remember that I warned you about making it too short? If you remember you will have very little trouble when you try to cut out children.

Let me tell you how a little friend of mine looked one day. Her mother had just finished making her a new dress and she was wearing it for the first time. As I went into the room, she was standing straight and proud, and was looking in the glass at her dress. At first I caught just a side view of her. I saw only one foot and one leg, the skirt stiff and new, a sash with a big bow coming out at the back of her waist, her back straight, her hair bobbed and tied with a big bow on the top of her head.

Shall I tell you how to cut out a picture of her? First, I shall think of her standing on the floor and cut a strip for the ground. Before I begin to cut the back of her shoe, I shall think of the line of it, straight at the back of the heel and curved in at the ankle. After I have thought about it, I shall cut it. In the same way, before I do any cutting I shall think of the curve at the back of a little child's leg, because it is not straight like a lead pencil. Then I shall think of the bottom of her skirt. It is full and made of soft material and is not straight like a piece of paper.

Up in the air so high we go,
We'll touch the leaves first thing you know.
No, little birdie in your nest,
We'll ne'er disturb your quiet rest.
Cut our pictures with skirts afly,
And friends to push as we go by.

The next thing to think of, is that this skirt is gathered in at the waist. To show this my cut must be a slanting one. Then I must think of the big bow of the sash and cut it. The back so straight and proud, the bobbed hair that stands away from the neck, and the bow so high on the top of the head, must all be thought out before they are cut.

In the same way, I shall think out all the changes before I cut down the front side of my little girl, remembering to leave a floor strip for my child to stand on. Perhaps it will be easier for you to make a cutting of this same child before you try to think of one yourself. After you do this, think out a picture of your own and cut it.

Up in the World.

Almost always the two legs, the two feet, and the two arms of a child are seen. Sometimes only a part of them are seen. You must be watchful and when you cut the picture be careful to show only what you see. When a child is standing, if his legs and feet are spread apart, the paper between them must be cut away. In doing this, put the scissors through the middle of the piece that you are going to cut away and carefully think out each cut before you make it. If you press the point of the scissors in just where you are going to cut, it may be very hard to keep the paper from tearing there. Sometimes it is necessary to cut here because the space is so small. Then you must be careful not to tear the paper.

Before we go on with our story-telling, let us think of things that a very little boy or girl can do. He can creep, stand, sit, swim, walk, bend, stoop, run, jump, kneel, on both knees or only on one, and, strange to say, he can even stand on his head.

Our Indian Cousin.

Compare a child with a little bird. A little bird can hop, stand, sit, and fly. A kitten can walk, run, jump, sit, lie down, stoop over to eat her food and climb a tree. A dog can do what a kitten can do, but he cannot climb a tree. How sorry he is sometimes! Pussy isn't sorry! A dog can swim and he is glad.

Think how many things a little child can do that these pets of his cannot do. Of all living things he should be the happiest, because he is able to do so much, and is loved and cared for best of all. He has someone to love him, to work for him, to think of and for him, and to take care of him. Let us cut out a picture of some of his happy times. Watch his body as he makes it do different things. Watch him as he marches. He keeps his back straight, stretches out each leg, first one and then the other, and steps first on one foot and then on the other. Stand up yourself. March! How can you cut the picture of a marching child? Will the picture say "march" if you cut both legs straight down with the feet standing on the ground? I hear you say, "No." Watch the children on the street. Look at the pictures of walking children. See what the artist has thought of when he has drawn walking children.

One leg does go down straight sometimes, while the other one slants out. If the child is walking

Happy Walking Children.

With my shovel and pail I go
To make me a house in the sand.
I'll cover up my foot, you know,
And there'll be the cave that I planned.

fast, both legs sometimes slant and must be cut so. What does a child do with his arms as he walks? He can do anything with them that he chooses. He can keep them perfectly still or he can swing them.

Cut a picture of a little boy walking. Let him have some fun while he is doing it. If the little one keeps his arms still and straight, it will be necessary to cut them straight down. If they bend at the elbow, cut down to the elbow and across to the coat; perhaps one arm will swing and the other one be straight. The swinging arm will usually be shown with a slanting cut.

One reason that we are able to do so many things is because our body is made in a wonderful way. Move your hand back and forth, and up and down. How easily it moves! Try the arm in the same way. Try the shoulder, too. It is better than a hinge because it moves in more ways than back and forth. The same is true of the joints at the ankle, the knee and the hip. What a strange body it would be if it was all made of one stiff bone, like a door! We couldn't do many things then, could we? Someone would have to move us.

Watch a little boy as he makes up his mind to run. How these joints help him! What does he do with his back? Does he keep it straight? No, it slants in the direction toward which he is

An Aide-de-camp.

running. The forward thigh stretches out in the same direction, but at the knee the leg bends back, the ankle helps, the foot slants down and touches the ground. The other thigh slants backward and this back leg, if the child is running fast, stretches straight out from the knee and does not touch the ground. Sometimes if he is running very fast, it slants up, and the toe of the shoe points to the ground.

One day, a little boy in cutting a picture of a running child, cut the toe of the back shoe as if it were pointing to the sky instead of the ground. You have no idea how strange it looked. A little girl made the joints go the wrong way, and the poor little knees of the paper child clung together, and the legs spread far apart. If you ever make a cutting that looks funny (and we all do sometimes), think it out to see if the joint *could* act the way you have made it act. Take the position that you have shown in your cutting. See whether your body can do what you made the body in the cutting do.

If you wish to cut stories of children, you must watch them doing things. Think what a child can do when sitting. I hear you say that she can play with her doll, swing, hold her pets, rock the baby, read, and fish. What a good time she has in doing all of this.

Watch children. You will find that they sit

very often when they work or play. How many sitting children do you suppose you can cut?

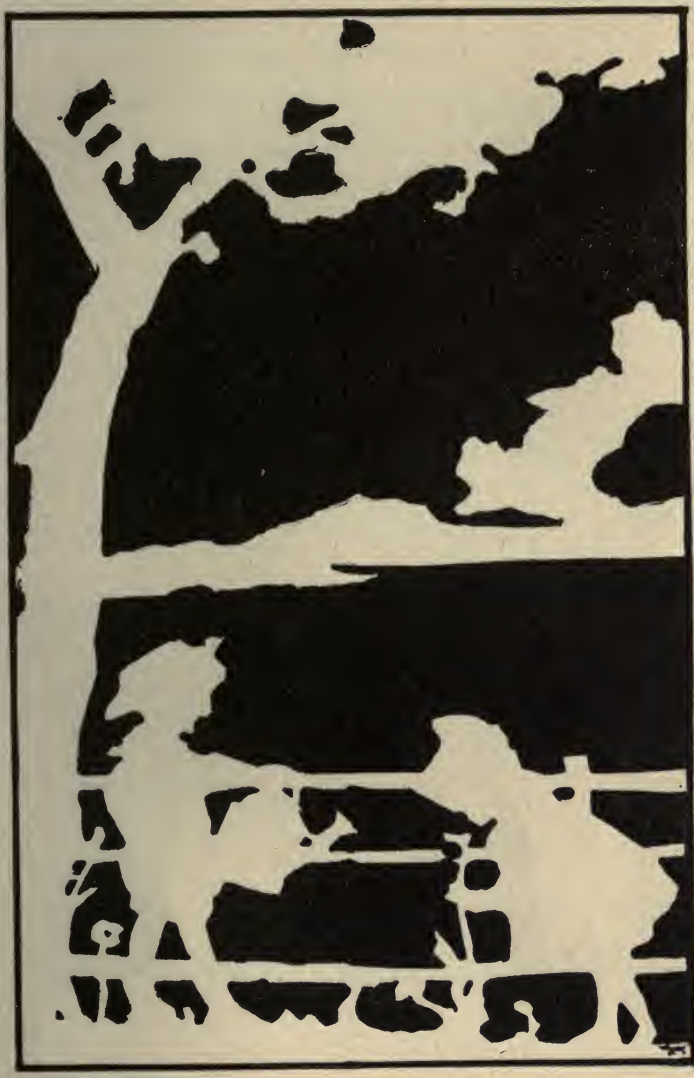
Watch bending children. They pick flowers, play marbles, stroke their pets, help mother sweep, pull the weeds away from the flowers, and are quick to pick scraps from the floor. I believe that bending children may be called mother's helping children.

Be gentle, oh horsie so proud!
Baby so wee rides behind you!
She cooes so happily aloud.
Mother so lovingly takes her,
A dear little sister named Cloud.

A Willing Messenger.

In the Play House.

I shall leave the dear children with you now. Watch them at work and at play. Cut them out carefully and make them as beautiful as you can. They are your chums and friends. Of course, we shall meet them with their animal friends, their playmates and protectors.



Flower Lovers.

ANIMAL ARTISTS.

Before we begin to cut pictures of animals, let me tell you something about animal artists. They are always animal lovers. They take the best care of their animals. They feed them and watch over them to see that nothing hurts them. The animals love them. Do they love you? How can you tell when a kitty loves you? She will rub up against you as you sit in your chair. If you listen when you take her in your arms, you will hear a little purring song which means, "I am happy. I love to be with you."

When a dog likes you he wags his tail, and if

My Chum and I.

you look into his eyes, you will find them to be kind and friendly. Little chickens will run after you. When you feed her little ones the old mother hen will say, "Cluck, cluck." That cluck means, "Come babies, the children are caring for you." I am sure it also means, "Thank you."

Not many of you have a horse but if you ever do own one, I am sure you will be kind to him. When you cut his picture, you will leave his tail long and beautiful, because it is that tail that helps to shoo away the flies that bite him.

When you cut out your animal pictures, remember that, like all other animal artists, you are animal lovers. Because you do love them, you will make them as beautiful as you can.

First, watch the little kitten as she sits up in front of you. You will have to be quick, because she is so playful and is still only a minute.

Often, as the kitten sits there, one ear comes up higher than the other. This is because she holds her head on one side. Perhaps she thinks you are coming, and is listening. Between the ears is a little short curve, while down the front side of her is a long graceful one. On *my* kitten, that curve went in quite a bit, and the little foot that for a wonder was still, poked its way out just a little. Her back slanted down and made me think of a nice furry brush.

Dear little pussy,
Sitting up so, so!
With my scissors
I'll make you grow, grow—
Dear little pussy,
Sitting up so, so!

Hide and Seek.

When you cut the kitten out, perhaps you will enjoy playing that she is asleep in a box. For this, cut out a big piece of paper, a little longer than it is wide. We see her first when she wakes up and lifts her head out to look around. Remember to begin the cutting nearer one edge of the box. You will then have room for the back and the tail. If kitty likes what she sees, she will come out of the box and you will finish her picture.

Look at your kitten. Have you made her head too small? When I watched my kitten as she sat in this position, I found that her body was about twice as long as her head. How many kittens are there in this family? Does the old mother trust you to play with them? Watch them to see how they play, how they sleep, and how they eat. Give them some milk and while they are drinking they will be still. Run for your scissors. See whether you can cut a picture of one drinking milk. If the kitten that you are cutting changes her position to drink from another place on the saucer, change your position to get the same view you had at first, and you will be able to finish your cutting. See how many kinds of things you will be able to make the picture kitten do.

Watch other pets in the same way. Look at a dog. Is he like a kitten? He has four legs,

but they are not shaped like a kitten's legs. Their heads also differ in shape. The lines in dogs' heads are much longer than in kittens' heads. The line under a cat's stomach is quite straight and her legs are not very long. The line under the stomach of a dog is quite slanting and his legs are apt to be long.

In your first cutting of a paper dog try for the main lines. Imagine that he is standing so that you see the side only and that the two legs on the far side are hidden by the two nearest to you. What a strong watchful animal a dog is and how faithful he is to his friends! Cut

pictures of him doing different things. Can he beg? Can he sleep? Cut one for big brother or for some other person who loves dogs. I am sure he will like it.

Another thing to enjoy thinking about and cutting, is the squirrel that you often see in the parks. Does he ever come to take the peanuts from your hand, then run up the trunk of a tree, sit on the branch, crack his nut and nibble at it?

Do not forget the birds who sometimes rock their babies in the tree tops. Will you cut a picture of Tree-top Village where the birds sing

The Bird's Music Lesson.

to the flowers and to the children, as well as to each other? Perhaps your picture will be of an empty bird's nest that is to rent. Here is a picture of a bird's school where the class is on the line. Which is the teacher? These birdies are having a music lesson and the wind is playing on the wires. They are bright and happy. They have just had a shower bath that they took in the pool by the roadside.

A robin is a nice bird. Try to cut a picture of him. Have you seen him run along on the grass and stop a minute to see whether you are looking at him? Watch the little sparrow, too. Does he look like the robin. Cut a picture of each. Take them to mother to see whether she thinks they are natural.

Moving Pictures.

MOVING-PICTURE SHOWS.

Before cutting out pictures to show happy holidays, how many animal friends will you be able to cut? Have a moving-picture show. Cut first one animal, then another.

At one time, when I was visiting a farm, I saw, not a circus procession, but a procession that was slow and stately. All at once there was the sound of scraping a dish. How my procession did turn to run! Can you guess what it went for? By and by I followed and found a mother hen taking care of her babies. As they were still and sleepy, the picture did not move any more. I went back on tiptoe because I did not want to scare the baby chicks. Just as I was turning to go away the proud father walked up. He, too, was careful not to disturb his little family, because he knew that the mother hen often has a hard time when she tries to put her baby chicks to sleep. Can you find my moving-picture show?

Get up a moving-picture show of your own! Suppose a little boy is playing with his dog. Can you cut out each act in his play? Try it! Invite your friends to see the show. You may charge grown-ups an admission fee of two pins,

but of course children will pay only half price.

Little chicks, little chicks, fie, oh, fie!
Who'd fuss for worms? Said the dog, "Not I."
Little chicks, little chicks, do be fair;
Who'll be judge? Said our boy, "I'm there."

Best of Friends.

Contentment.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

If a brownie sees a fairy
Hop upon a chair,
Then a brownie asks a fairy
To be brave and dare
To make a wish on every candle
For things that children care.
So a brownie and a fairy
Speak their wishes there.

A Proud Messenger.

CHILDRENS' HAPPY DAYS.

Truly this world seems to be a place for children. Not only are all loving children happy day by day, but there are many special days made on purpose for the little ones. First of all, comes the birthday. You do not remember when the stork brought you. You were too tiny to look around, to think of yourself, or even to play with your little pink toes. Mother and father remember, and are happy every time they think of it. Because they are happy, they celebrate (big word, isn't it) this day with you.

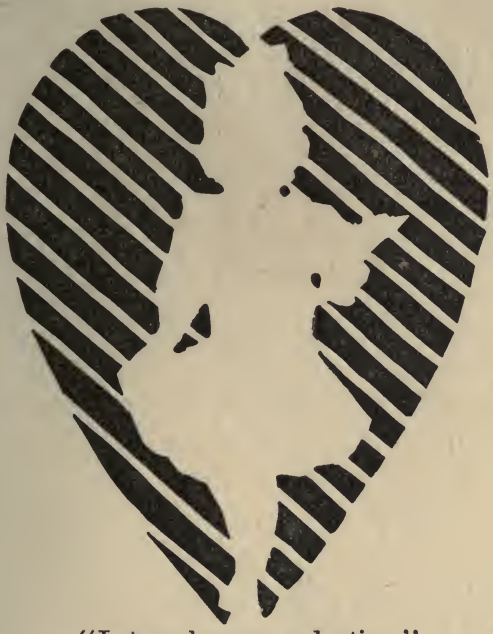
What do you do on your birthday? Next time it comes, put something beside mother's and father's plates. Perhaps it will be a flower, a little shell or just a loving note that big sister will help you to write.

Cut out some happy birthday times. I believe the best things that you have cut will be some birthday stories.

How this young Cupid swings in glee!
As fairy of love, he thinks of me.

What day shall we celebrate next in our cutting? Does someone say "Valentine's Day"?

Did you ever hear the story about Mr. Valentine? He was an old man who loved children. He used especially to visit those children who were sick or poor. There came a time when he did not go, the children missed him and wondered. They went to see him and found him sick in bed. Dear Mr. Valentine remembered that he could write if he was not well enough to go out, so he used to send greetings to his little friends.



"Let me be your valentine."

After he died, these children celebrated his birthday by sending loving messages to one another. We still keep the custom.

It will be well to plan the valentine that you will cut several days before you send it. You may spoil it and need to try again, and this takes time. I wonder to whom you are going to send it. You will never tell, will you? That is your secret.

Next comes jolly old Hallowe'en! Who is to have a Hallowe'en party? Try to find some black paper, and cut out the pictures to paste on the invitation that you will send. These pictures will surely tell your friends that the witches, brownies, black cats, and fairies are to be there. At the bottom of one little girl's invitation was printed:

"The goblins *won't* git you
Ef you *do* watch out!"

Hallowe'en Invitations.

Has Santa Claus Forgotten?

CHRISTMAS DECORATION.

The nicest day of all has been saved until the last. Christmas Day! Even very little people will find something to do for this day. They can cut out apples, nuts, and balls. In olden times when these were hung on the tree, the people made believe that they stood for the sun, the moon, and the stars. Other children may cut out candles for the lights. Here again, in olden times when the tree was lighted, the lights were a make-believe for the flashes of lightning overhead. If the older children help, the little ones can color these lights. They will trim the tree. Cut paper dolls for trimming, too. Clothe them in pretty party dresses and cunning little slippers for this happy night. Here, again, your colored pencils will help.

Get the tree all ready for Santa Claus. Dear old Santa Claus with his eight tiny reindeer. What a jolly old fellow he is, and how tired he must be after his many trips to—I don't know where—Cloudland, perhaps. I think I do not want to know where his home is, do you? We have happy times thinking about things we never see. Most real things are not seen. Who sees the fairies who dance on the lawn or sit perched up on the toadstools?

" Little gifts are precious
If a loving heart
Helps the busy fingers
As they do their part."

CHRISTMAS SECRETS.

Christmas is a happy time and is full of surprises. It is one of the times when we share our candy with the child who has none, when little children and big children find what a blessed thing it *is* to give happiness. Gentle words are spoken and love shines in our eyes.

The gifts that have the most value are the ones on which the most thought is spent. Father and mother are loved best. Cut out a story telling what your home is to be when you are grown. In this, have pictures of your children with their pets, with their horses and carriages or autos. Perhaps the yard will contain a little pond where the children may wish to sail their boats.

Easter Flowers.

Experiment! Try first one arrangement, then another. Where will the trees look best, growing in rows, or in bunches where tables may be set for a picnic dinner? If you intend to have a swing in the yard under what kind of tree will you place it? If you wish the house to be shady, how near to it will you plant your tree?

After you have placed all of these things as you wish them, look at the whole picture. Do you like it? Are some of the spaces too crowded? Do others look too empty? Arrange this picture so it will make you happy to look at it.

At first mother and father will think nothing of it if they see you cutting pictures. Now, when you cut, find a spot in the house where no one will hear you even if you whisper your secret. Choose white paper, look at the picture as you have it arranged. Try to cut the whole picture out together.

You will not mind trying many times. Artists never mind trying again. When the picture is finished, mount it, on paper the color of things in mother's room. Use thin library paste. Take it to a picture framer and ask him to put a white passepartout frame on it. This will cost you about thirty cents. If you haven't saved up that much money, put a little white string through

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the top, tie it so it will hang, and mother and father will be just as glad.

When it is ready, and has been wrapped up, ask someone to give it to Santa Claus to put with the things he has for mother and father. I am sure he will be glad to do so.

As dear old Santa finishes his work in your home, and is ready to go on to another, I am sure, as he looks around to see if everything is left as he wants it, that he is thinking, "God bless us every one."

THE END

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